

### **Remarks**

Claims 48 to 76 are pending in this application. Claim 69 is withdrawn. Claim 48, 57 and, per this submission, claim 66, are in independent form. Claim 66, as well as claims 67, 73 and 74, which are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 66 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were said to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have so rewritten these claims. In particular, applicants have brought claim 66 into independent form by including all limitations of claim 48. Applicants did so for the sole purpose of bringing the case into better form for appeal by reducing the issues for appeal.

Accordingly, only rejected claims 48 to 65, 68 to 72 and 75 to 76 remain at issue for appeal.

In view of the above, entry of this response is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due. However, any petition required for consideration of this paper is respectfully requested herewith and the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account 50-3135 for fees that might be required for such consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Joyce v. Natzmer/  
Joyce von Natzmer  
Registration No. 48,120  
**Customer No. 46002**  
Direct Line: (301) 657-1282

Pequignot + Myers LLC  
200 Madison Ave., 1901  
New York, NY 10016  
**March 24, 2008**